(c) A draft model Agreement based on India-Sri Lanka FTA has been prepared for such negotiations. However, the final text of such Agreement depend on the nature and outcome of the negotiations.

(d) The India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement aims for providing zero duty market access on various products covered under the Agreement subject to fulfillment of Rules of Origin prescribed thereunder. The review discussions help both the countries to further enhance their bilateral trade and investment flows and also address the issues relating to procedural problems.

Indo-China trade relations

5. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. M.N. DAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of issues for improving trade relations between India and China were discussed and many agreements were signed;

(b) if so, whether all the hurdles between India and China have been removed in this regard;

(c) to what extent this would help in improving the trade ties between the two countries;

(d) whether a delegation of the confederation of Indian Industry which accompanied the Prime Minister had signed a number of agreements with the Chine businessmen;

(e) if so, to what extent India has been able to tap the Chinese market; and

(f) to what extent these agreements have been helpful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) During Prime Minister's visit to China during June 22-27, 2003, the following Agreement relating to Trade were signed:

(i) A Memorandum on Expanding Border Trade.

(ii) A Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements for Exporting Mangoes from India to China.

(iii) A Declaration on Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation including *inter-alia* the following elements pertaining to trade:

- The importance of the Ministerial meeting of the Joint Economic Group (JEG)
- Setting up of a compact Joint Study Group (JSG) composed of officials and economists to examine the potential of complementarities between the two countries in expanding trade and economic cooperation.

It is expected that bilateral trade will expand rapidly with the signing of the above agreements.

(d) to (f) A 38 member CII delegation accompanied the Prime Minister to China. CII renewed its Memorandum of Understanding with China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) and signed two new MoUs with Shenyang Information Industry Bureau (SIIB) and Shanghai Pudong Software Park (SPSP).

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†6. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade between India and China would reach 10 billion dollar in the next three years as a result of the recent trade talks held with China;

(b) if so, the assessment of the value of imports as well as exports by India; and

(c) the average total value of foreign trade during the last three years with China indicating the value of imports and exports separately?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.